

## KUHIO'S ELECTION OF GOVERNOR BILL MEETS OPPOSITION

President of Chamber of Commerce Prepared To Fight Delegate's Measure

### OTHER PROMINENT MEN OF THE CITY ALSO ANTAGONISTIC

Business Men of Honolulu Believe Such a Change in Policy Ill-Timed

George W. Smith, president of the chamber of commerce, is opposed to the bill now in congress to make the office of governor elective instead of appointive.

Mr. Smith when interviewed about the matter yesterday admitted that he did not know anything about the provisions of the bill and that he had not seen a copy of it. Others interviewed were equally in ignorance of the scope of the bill and equally opposed to the proposition to make the gubernatorial office elective.

"I really do not know anything about it," answered Mr. Smith. "I have read a few brief comments about the matter in the daily papers but have not seen a copy of the bill. On general principles, however, I am opposed to the project and think that at this time it is unwise to try to make any change."

Officials of the chamber of commerce also stated that they had not seen the bill although the matter had been brought to their attention and two meetings had been held to consider the matter.

Has Not Seen Bill  
Secretary Brown said yesterday that the chamber had not been able to take any action in the matter for the reason that the members did not know what it was about.

"There have been two meetings," he said, "when the matter was brought up, but nothing was done because we had not received a copy of the bill. Personally I am opposed to any such change and believe that it is not wise. I shall try to obtain a copy of the bill and the matter probably will be discussed by the chamber at a regular meeting."

The bill in question, which is of such importance to Hawaii and about which many of the prominent citizens of Honolulu are in ignorance, was introduced in congress on December 18 by Delegate Kuhio. According to the provisions of the bill the governor and secretary of the Territory of Hawaii shall be elected by the qualified electors of the Territory of Hawaii, and that all the laws for the Territory of Hawaii relating to the nomination and election of a delegate to the congress of the United States shall be held to apply to the nomination and election of a governor and secretary of the Territory of Hawaii.

Kuhio Ambitions  
It is intimated by several persons who were interviewed that the action taken in Washington was for the purpose of making Kuhio the first elective governor of the Territory. It also was declared by a number of persons that any such action should not be made without the consent of the people of the Territory expressed through their representatives in the legislature. Before leaving for the mainland Delegate Kuhio stated in an interview that it would be wiser to have some action by the legislature before the matter was taken up at Washington.

The bill in full follows:  
"Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled, that the executive power of the government of the Territory of Hawaii shall be vested in a Governor, who shall be elected by the qualified electors of the Territory of Hawaii in this manner hereinafter set forth. He shall hold office for four years from the first Monday in January succeeding his election and until his successor shall be elected and qualified. He shall possess all of the qualifications now required by law to be possessed by the Governor of the Territory of Hawaii, and all powers now by law vested in the Governor of the Territory shall be vested in the Governor thus chosen.

## NAVY NOW SHORT TWENTY THOUSAND OF FULL STRENGTH

Many Good Vessels Put On Reserve List To Provide Sailors For Bigger Ones

### THINK NEW YORK HAS NOT DONE ITS SHARE

Destroyers Will Visit Many Ports To Show What Men Can Expect

NORFOLK, Virginia, December 9.—What's the matter with the United States navy?

An enlisted man in the navy these days has an excellent chance of promotion. In fact, he stands a better chance for promotion than most of his fellow men who follow vocations on land. He is really given an education and put in a position for advancement at no cost to himself.

But with all these advantages the navy is short 20,000 men, and facing it till greater shortage when new ships now under construction are ready for service.

The question of securing sufficient crew complements for ships of the navy is a serious one. So far the failure to do so has resulted in several ships being put on the reserve list, so that the men they had on board could be transferred to newer and bigger ships in active service.

Less Than Half Complement  
The battleship Louisiana went to sea from Norfolk recently with less than half of her regular crew complement. This ship has since been placed on the reserve list, along with the New Hampshire, Vermont and several others. All of these ships are vessels of the high class. There is no reason for taking them out of active service so far as go is concerned. The New Hampshire made an excellent record while she was in service both at target practice and at speed and ship maneuvers. She was considered among the best of the ship in her class.

The West and Middle West up to a certain point have been supplying the majority of recruits for the navy, but the South and East have forged to the front recently. It is from these portions of the country that the navy department looks for the greatest number of recruits to fill up the vacancies in the navy and build it up to its authorized strength.

Lieut. John Grady, United States Navy, detailed for special duty in connection with recruiting for the navy, has been securing the towns and cities of North Carolina and other Southern States for young men who want to cast their lot on the fighting ships of the United States.

He says Norfolk has been doing fairly well in supplying recruits for the past several weeks. The station here has been adding from twenty to twenty-five men to the naval roster each week. If other cities its size would do as well he believes 20,000 men needed to make the navy what it should be would probably be secured in a reasonable length of time.

To Boost Naval Recruiting Here  
Lieutenant Grady is going to New York to boost naval recruiting at that place. Considering its size, the metropolis is not doing as well as it should in supplying recruits, according to naval officials.

## COMMISSION GOVERNMENT IN FIVE HUNDRED CITIES PROVES ITSELF A SUCCESS

More than 550 municipalities in the United States have already adopted the commission, commission-manager, limited council or variations of these new forms of government in the search for increased efficiency in the conduct of public affairs, writes Edwin S. Patter, editor of Equity, a Philadelphia publication. The trend of the experience of the cities now operating under these new forms is now presented for the first time in the current issue of Equity as the result of a nationwide investigation which it has conducted during the last year.

In 1900 the disastrous Galveston flood left that city prostrate, and the city government was unable to cope with such a condition. The Governor appointed a commission and gave it extensive powers to meet the unusual situation. This was first demonstrated the remarkable efficiency of a small body with great powers, for the commission soon brought order out of chaos. So well pleased were the citizens with this concentrated form of government that they had it made permanent, and the extraordinary efficiency of the government of Galveston soon attracted the attention of the whole country and the plan began to spread to other cities.

During that very period many of our cities were struggling to find adequate substitutes for the existing system of government with its long ballot, cumbersome two-chambered councils and the division of executive responsibility among numerous elective officials. This was the system which under the sway of national party bosses had brought on the era of gross inefficiency and corruption. The practical common sense of American business men saw in the Galveston commission plan the very tool that was needed.

Des Moines Example  
This tool was seized upon by cities seeking efficiency, and after the city of Des Moines in 1907 combined with this concentration of authority that essential principle of democracy, namely, the control of the government by the voters through the initiative, referendum and recall, the commission government spread rapidly to every part of the country. The underlying basis of this stupendous movement is thus expressed by Equity:

Concentration of official authority and responsibility for efficiency; diffusion among the voters of the power to control the government; the removal of the government from the hands of party bosses and the placing of it in the hands of the people for safety and democracy.

In thirty-four States there are now general statutes authorizing cities to adopt new and improved forms of government, the commission form being specifically provided for in twenty-seven States. Most of these laws are defective in one respect or another, and the comparative analysis presented by Equity furnishes the basis for legislative action by the forty-one States in which legislatures are to meet in 1917.

Let Government Secure  
A questionnaire was sent broadcast to municipal officials and others in all these cities, and also to various State officials and legislative reference bureaus calling for the facts of experience and also concerning the existing State laws and constitutional provisions under which the new forms are authorized.

Signed reports have been received by Equity from 449 municipalities furnishing a body of facts from all sections of the country. The facts are almost all in the direction of greater efficiency of administration as a result of the concentration of powers in small bodies of officials elected to represent the entire community, and each member of which is wholly responsible for a definite share or department of the government. The reports invariably testify to the important improvements obtained for the community, together with numerous and striking economies.

Toward One-Man Government  
One of the most noticeable features disclosed by our investigation is the trend toward the manager idea, over ninety municipalities having moved in this direction. But wherever the commission-manager plan is adopted all of the greater need is felt for the powers of direct popular control. While it is true that the commission remains the policy-determining body and is held directly responsible to the voters for the success or failure of a given administration, still it is found in practice that a successful manager must come into pretty close contact with the people of a community as an administrator. In this way the manager seems to embody, and so far as administration is concerned does embody, the idea of greater concentration of authority. But when it is seen that this authority has nothing to do with changes in policy,

and that the commission which employs the manager is itself subject to the recall, or its legislative policy subject to the initiative and referendum, the people are able to understand that while they are getting greater efficiency of administration they thus remain in constant control of their government. Recall Rarely Used  
Now what are the facts concerning the extent and character of the use to which the initiative, referendum and recall have been put in these municipalities? Up to this time it has been customary for timid people under the sway of reactionary leaders to approach this subject with theoretical distrust and a priori reasoning. The people have been told by these backward-looking leaders that the initiative and referendum would endanger representative government and some of them have been frightened by the bog of "mob passion" and "minority rule." Others have been led to believe that the voters would be continually agitated and wearied by special elections and by the submission of technical details of government to the ignorant voters.

## SPORTS

### HILO PLANS FOR NEW ATHLETIC HALL

Board Of Trade and Supervisors Are Behind Basketball League To Build Central Gym To Build Central Gym

HILO, January 6.—With the enthusiasm shown by the members of the Hilo Basketball League and the backing of the Board of Trade and the Board of Supervisors, which appear to be assured, the proposed Hilo gymnasium and athletic hall has every prospect to be more than just a plan and dream of the boosters for this city.

At a meeting of the Basketball League last Friday evening in the office of the Wells Fargo Company, both of the well known Hilo businessmen, as well as plans for the building, which will hold a fine stage for theatricals, a basketball court, eighty-seven and a half feet long by fifty feet wide, as well as full gymnasium paraphernalia, was shown by Dr. Y. E. Colville.

It was stated at the meeting that nearly every person approached in connection with the proposed building has been enthusiastic, and just as soon as Land Commissioner Rivenburgh has decided upon the lease to the league of the piece of ground fronting on Kamehameha Avenue, opposite the Volcano Station, there will be no trouble in raising the money by subscription and by the Board of Trade to put up the building as a center for recreation and athletics for the young people of Hilo.

It is now proposed to incorporate the Hilo Basketball League, so that it can legally hold property and lease ground and assume debts. Ex-Judge Parsons will act as the attorney for the league in this matter.

The new officers of the league elected Friday evening are: Dr. Y. E. Colville, president; R. T. Forrest, vice-president; J. R. Zimmerman, secretary-treasurer; E. N. Deyo and A. L. MacKay, directors. They were authorized to incorporate the league.

Senior basketball will turn out again at the Y. M. C. A. Tuesday night, the occasion being the opening of the second series schedule. This series was to have been started last Tuesday, but was postponed due to this date coming right after New Year's celebration and some of the players from three of the teams scheduled to play had been disabled in the Red-A-All Stars game at the open house entertainment New Year's night. There will be no more delays in this series and it will be vamped up and all games pushed hard.

Tuesday night's opener the Oahu will meet the Reds in the first game and the All Stars will line up against the Tigers. The Reds will go into the game somewhat crippled. They will be short two of their best players. Donn Judd, champion guard in the Senior League, is out of the game having suffered two broken ribs in the National Guard-All Service football game last Saturday and will be out of all athletics for a couple of months. Roger Noyes, the Reds' fast forward, is out of town. However, the Reds are a strong team and have other good men in their lineup, and the Oahu will have to go some to beat them. This is going to be a good game.

The Tigers and the All Stars will put up another dandy exhibition. The Tigers have Duggan and Harry Henry, fast men at forward and accurate goal shooters. Henry is one of the Association quints that made a tour of mainland towns last season. The All Stars have a couple of men who are there with the goods, too. There is Percy Nottage, a shark when it comes to speed and caging of baskets, and then Gaylord, at guard, is no slouch. Gaylord will probably be used to cover Henry in this game.

WAR TAX ON BOXING  
Australia, according to information recently received, has levied a tax of seventeen cents on every dollar taken in at boxing shows.

Line O'Sport  
The 1917 bonspiel of the Northwest curling association will be held in Duluth, Minnesota, January 22 to 27. Canadian curlers are expected to participate in the James J. Hill International trophy event.

All tennis players should remember that the entries are now open at E. O. Hall and Non for the Class B tournament which starts Friday. Entries close Wednesday evening at five o'clock.

With football pau, it seems that St. Louis and the Braves could get together for that long talked of baseball game. Such a game between the two best junior teams in Hawaii would draw a great crowd.

Surf riding in the moonlight has found some followers. The surf rider coming in on the crest of a wave in the daylight is impressive, but to see a rider gracefully swaying on his board in the silvery moonlight, with the shadows playing over his body, and the wave churned into white, glistening foam at his feet, it indeed a rare and fascinating sight.

## YATES TO RUN ONCE MORE FOR THE BOARD

HILO, January 6.—Superintendent Julian R. Yates has gone on record, politically, as a candidate for reelection as a supervisor from West Hawaii. Speaking of the matter on Friday Mr. Yates said:

"All this talk about my running as a candidate for sheriff, or for executive officer, is all boah. If I had ever proposed to run as a candidate for sheriff I would have come out long ago and let my friends know about it and so get into the fight in time before all the voters are pledged to someone else. All these stories are just political talk. "My mind has been made up for some time to run as a Republican candidate for supervisor from West Hawaii for reelection. It has been said that I am down and out, politically, in Kona, but this will be shown when election comes around. As it is, I will stand upon my record as one member of this board of supervisors, which I believe is conceded has made a fine record. I know we have tried to do our duty right straight through."

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